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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Information Technology
Director of Finance

FROM: Daniel A. Childs, Jr.
Comptroller

SUBJECT: Budget and Accounting Resources System (BARS)

1. This is to express my appreciation to the BARS team for their fine work on the Office Budget Formulation (OBF) and Agency Budget Formulation (ABF) segments of the BARS system; and to seek your continued support for this important effort.

2. As you know, the new BARS system was used exclusively in formulating the Agency's FY 1989 budget estimates. Although some problems were encountered, they were of the kind that you would normally expect in any new system of this complexity, and the team is to be commended for the real-time support they provided in developing temporary solutions to the problems that arose.

3. Since then, the team has been working hard on system improvements for the ABF segment. ^{Customer}~~User~~ representatives, in conjunction with BARS team leaders, have defined system specifications for six enhancements to ABF. It is critically important that these enhancements be completed and ^{fully}~~first~~ tested in time for the ^{that will begin in March 1988.}~~upcoming~~ 1990 program development exercise. Thus, I urge that you keep the ABF team in place until this effort is successfully completed.

4. I also have lingering concerns about user training. As I'm sure you recognize, adequate ~~user~~ ^{on system capabilities} training is essential to successful system operations. Steps ~~will need~~ ^{have} to be taken to ensure that regularly scheduled training continues to be available to new users on a timely basis.

5. Please express my thanks to the BARS team for a job well done!

Daniel A. Childs, Jr.